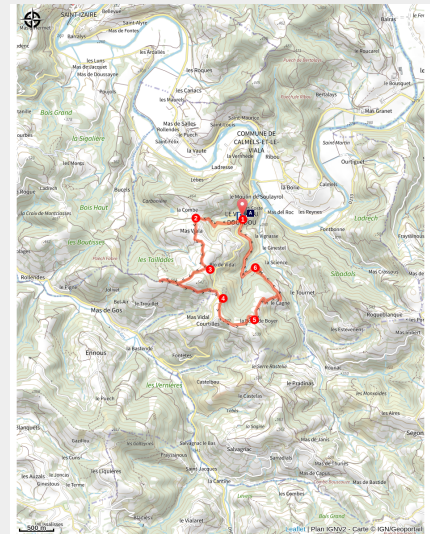


On the trail of the women of the land

Des falaises de Roquefort au Rougier



Sur les chemins de femmes de la terre (Roquefort Tourisme)



Come and explore the village of the Viala du Dourdou nestled in a verdant setting, you'll be amazed by the atmosphere of serenity and simplicity that radiates from the place

This hiking path will plunge you back into the history of this rural area where landscapes have continuously been shaped by generations of men and women

Useful information

Practice : Trekking

Duration : 2 h

Length : 7.6 km

Trek ascent : 238 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Panorama

Trek

Departure : as you enter the village

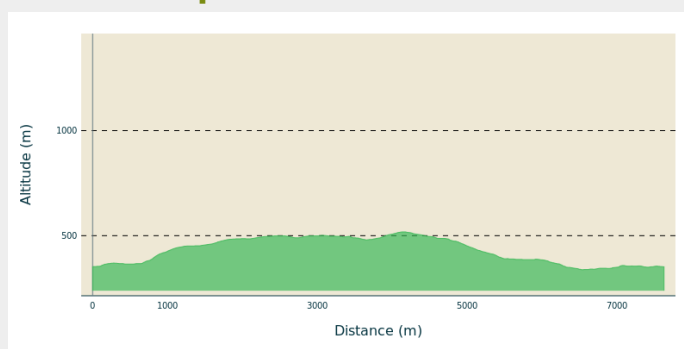
Arrival : as you enter the village

Markings : — PR

Cities : 1. Calmels-et-le-Viala

2. Saint-Juéry

Altimetric profile

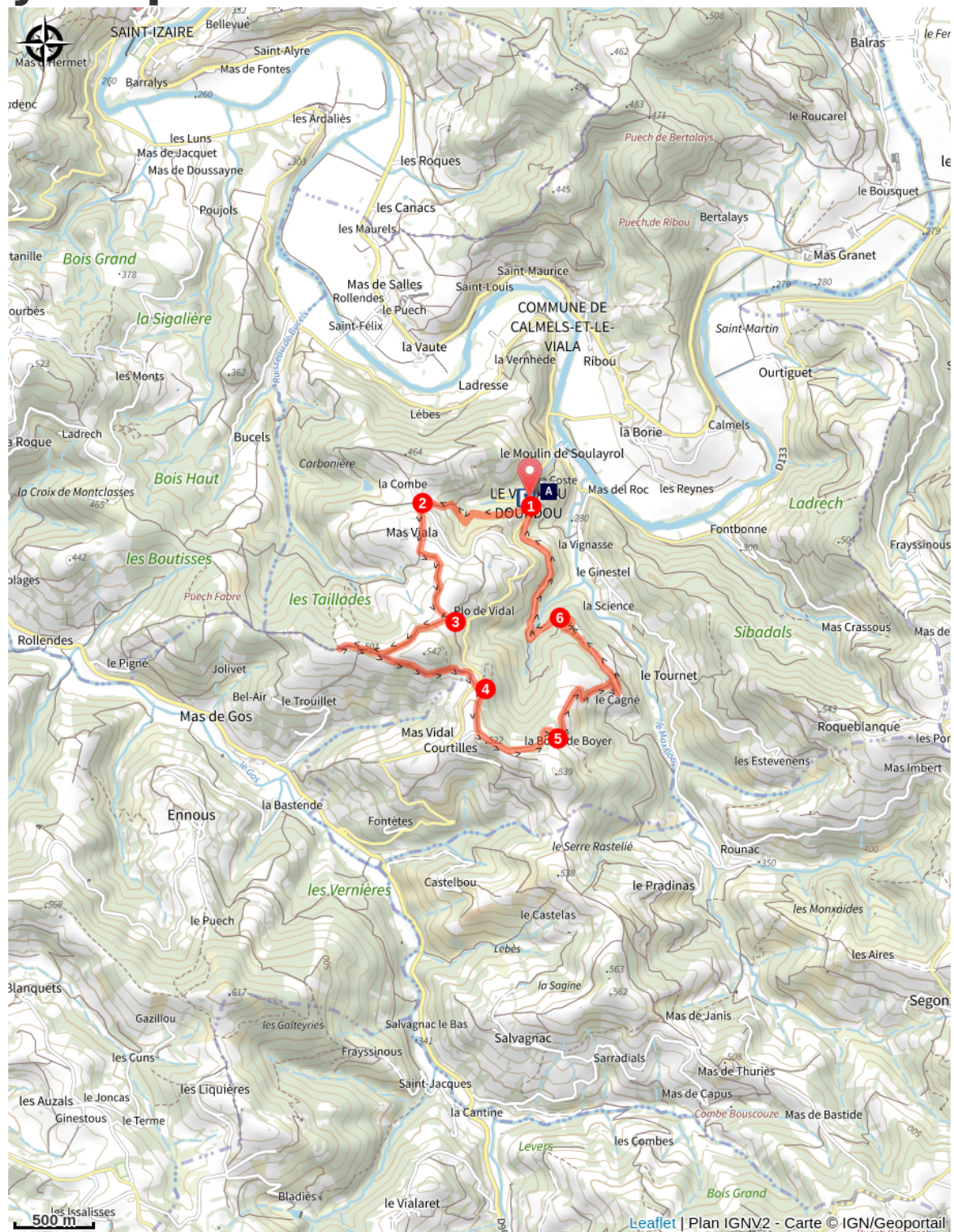


Min elevation 338 m Max elevation 518 m

These women of the land raised their families, often composed of many children, made bread in the ovens which are still visible today in the village, worked in the steep sloping fields, cared for poultry and took charge of the farms when their husbands were away at war. They handed down their ancestral skills and knowledge (preparing cold cuts, gardening and picking wild plants for their medicinal virtues), invigorated the life of the parish community and made sure that people lived together in harmony. Madame Carriere from the Mas Viala, Rosa from the Borie de Boyer, Marie from the Cagné, Denise, Marthe, La Vayssettounne and la Durante from the Viala, all of these women are well remembered and deserve this tribute.

1. From the car park, walk up the D632 for about 100m and very next to the village hall, take a right turn up a road with hair pin bends. On reaching the reservoir, leave the road taking a right turn onto a grassy footpath. Cross a ravine and leave a path on your right. Walk up to join the road that leads to the Combe.
2. At the intersection, take the path that goes towards the South and that leads to the Mas Viala. On reaching the Mas, carry straight on for about 100 m, then turn left and follow the trail that makes a wide curve to the right and climbs up towards the crest.
3. At the junction of the trails, take right fork along the hill a shady path that meets another trail after 550 m and provides a very nice view over the Gos valley. Follow a hair pin bend to the left and walk down a gentle slope towards the D632.
4. Cross the road and take the path on the opposite side that ascends southward up a slope. At the junction with a small road, take the left turn and follow this road for approximately 600m.
5. Just before the Borie du Boyer, follow the left hand path that goes down towards the valley where you can enjoy the beautiful view. Walk close to the Cagné and after a hair pin curve, leave on your right a path that goes downhill towards the Maxillou stream, and keep going NW, first on the road and then on a trail through woodlands.
6. Follow a wide curve which takes you back onto the road and after a hair pin bend keep straight on towards the village.

On your path...



 Church of Viala-du-Dourdou (A)

All useful information

Advices

Box tree moths are active from May to October. During the caterpillar phase, they feed on the leaves of box trees. They crawl down trees and move on long silken threads, although these threads are annoying when hiking they do not pose any health risk

Gear

Prévoir une réserve d'eau et une tenue adaptée

How to come ?

Transports

Travel by bus or train: <https://lio.laregion.fr/>

Carpooling : [BlaBlaCar](#), [Rézo Pouce](#), [Mobicoop](#), [Idvroom](#), [LaRoueVerte](#), [Roulez malin](#)

Access

From the road D999, at the roundabout situated near Vabres-l'Abbaye, take the D25 towards Saint-Izaire. After the hamlet of la Borie, turn left onto the D632, then cross the bridge over the Dourdou river and turn to your left.

Advised parking

as you enter the village

Information desks

Saint-Affrique Tourist Office

Boulevard Aristide Briand, 12400 Saint-Affrique

contact@roquefort-tourisme.fr

Tel : 0565585600

<http://www.roquefort-tourisme.fr/>



On your path...



Church of Viala-du-Dourdou (A)

Built in 1840 on the site of a former fortress, the Church of Viala stands out for its bell tower made of finely cut red sandstone. Inside, you can discover a small bronze bell dating from 1660, once used to announce approaching storms and ward off bad weather.

Attribution : Virginie Govignon